



CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

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Technology Center 2100

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) An external display device of a refrigerator comprising:

 a display unit on a door in the refrigerator, showing information on the state of the refrigerator;

 at least one user-select key on the door;

 a sub control unit at the door, said sub control unit receiving and transmitting signals generated by pressing the key and controlling the display unit;

 a main control unit at a main body of the refrigerator, said main control unit controlling operations of internal devices in the refrigerator and communicating with the sub control unit;

 a hinge unit mounted on the refrigerator and supporting the door; and

a communication means having a voltage supply line for supplying the supply voltage for the main control unit, the sub control unit and the display unit, and a signal line for transmitting data to each other, said communication means passing through the hinge unit, said sub control unit and said main control unit determining whether a right of data transmission is assigned to themselves before transmitting data to each other.

~~a communication means connecting to the main control unit and the sub control unit, said communication means passing through the hinge unit.~~

40. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39, wherein the main control unit and the sub control unit communicate with each other in serial data transmission.

41. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39, wherein the main control unit and the sub control unit communicate with each other in asynchronous serial data transmission.

42. (New) A refrigerator comprising:

- a body for holding food;
- a door for covering an opening to said body;
- a hinge connecting said body and said door;
- a display unit mounted to said door for showing information on the state of said refrigerator;
- at least one user-select key on said door;
- a sub control unit physically connected to said door for controlling said display unit and for receiving signals generated by actuation of said at least one user-select key on the door;
- a main control unit physically connected to said body, said main control unit connected to and controlling operations of a plurality of internal devices in said body, and said main control unit communicating with said sub control unit; and

a communication channel connecting said main control unit and said sub control unit.

43. (New) The refrigerator of claim 42, wherein said communication channel passes through said hinge.

44. (New) The refrigerator of claim 42, wherein the main control unit communicates with said internal devices through wires.

45. (New) The refrigerator of claim 42, wherein the main control unit communicates with the sub control unit through a wire.

46. (New) The refrigerator of claim 42, wherein the sub control unit communicates with the display unit through wires.

47. (New) The refrigerator of claim 42, wherein the main control unit and the sub control unit communicate with each other in serial data transmission.

48. (New) The refrigerator of claim 42, wherein the main control unit and the sub control unit communicate with each other in asynchronous serial data transmission.